

Message Text

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40/70

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 NSC-05

SS-15 /058 W

----- 065150

R 271835Z FEB 76 CORRECTED COPY FOR MCN

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6893

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PN, CU, CA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR PANAMA-HAVANA, PANAMA-MONTREAL AIR SERVICE

REF: A) 75 PANAMA 4919 (NOTAL; B) 75 STATE 194207 (NOTAL)

1. CUBANA AIRLINES WEEKLY ROUND-TRIP SERVICE, HAVANA-PANAMA CITY, WILL OPERATE ON MONDAY INSTEAD OF THURSDAY BEGINNING MARCH 1, WITH FLIGHT ARRIVING HERE AT 9:00 AM AND DEPARTING AT 11:00 AM. ACCORDING TO LOCAL CUBANA OFFICE, AIRCRAFT USED WILL BE DC-8 REPEAT DC-8, RATHER THAN CURRENTLY UTILIZED ILYUSHIN IL-18.

2. IN RESPONSE TO LATEST QUERY FROM EMBOFF, PANAMANIAN CIVIL AERONAUTICS DEPUTY DIRECTOR VON SEIDLITZ STATED THAT AIR PANAMA STILL HAS NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO BEGIN SERVICE TO HAVANA, NOR DID HE THINK IT IN EITHER THE CARRIER'S OR PANAMA'S INTEREST THAT IT DO SO. HE STATED HIS HOPE THAT IBERIA WOULD SHORTLY OBTAIN TRAFFIC RIGHTS BETWEEN PANAMA CITY AND HAVANA ON ITS WEEKLY PANAMA-HAVANA-MADRID ROUND-TRIP SERVICE (75 PANAMA 6692), THUS MAKING ROUTE EVEN LESS ATTRACTIVE TO AIR PANAMA. HE SAID PANAMA IS PREPARED TO

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GRANT IBERIA TRAFFIC RIGHTS, BUT FORMAL REQUEST HAS NOT YET BEEN

PRESENTED (HE INDICATED IT GOT LOST WITHIN SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTRY).

3. VONSEIDLITZ THEN BROUGHT UP AIR PANAMA'S DESIRE TO ADD MONTREAL TO ITS SCHEDULE. WHILE HE OPPOSED INCLUDING HAVANA IN SUCH A ROUTE, CARRIER DID REQUIRE AN INTERMEDIATE STOP, AND MIAMI OR NEW YORK WERE OBVIOUS CHOICES. SINCE CAB HAD REFUSED ORIGINAL AIR PANAMA REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF PANAMA CITY-MAIMI FLIGHTS TO MONTREAL, WITHOUT TRAFFIC RIGHTS BETWEEN LAST TWO POINTS, HE WONDERED WHETHER CARRIER HAD MADE INQUIRY OR REQUEST FOR SIMILAR EXTENSION OF FLIGHTS BEYOND NEW YORK.

4. EMBASSY REQUESTS INFORMATION ON 1) CURRENT STATUS OF AIR PANAMA'S JULY 8 PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF CAB DECISION REGARDING MIAMI (REF B) AND 2) WHETHER CAB HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY CARRIER REGARDING EXTENSION OF NEW YORK FLIGHTS TO MONTREAL.

JORDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AIR ROUTES, AIRLINES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PANAMA01433
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760077-0019
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976025/aaaaadoq.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 PANAMA 4919, 76 STATE 194207
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 APR 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <07 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR PANAMA-HAVANA, PANAMA-MONTREAL AIR SERVICE
TAGS: EAIR, PN, CU, CA, CUBANA AIRLINES, AIR PANAMA, IBERIA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006